

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
announces

BROADWAY CENTER STAGE
A New Series of Musicals in Concert
Showcasing Talent from Broadway and Washington, D.C.

Chess

Music by Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson
Lyrics by Tim Rice, Book by Richard Nelson
February 14–18, 2018 in the Eisenhower Theater

In the Heights

Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda
Book by Quiara Alegría Hudes
March 21–25, 2018 in the Eisenhower Theater

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying

Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser
Book by Abe Burrows, Jack Weinstock, and Willie Gilbert
June 6–10, 2018 in the Eisenhower Theater

(WASHINGTON)—The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts today announced the inaugural season of the Kennedy Center’s exciting new initiative, Broadway Center Stage. Three of Broadway’s best musicals will be presented in semi-staged concerts with talent direct from Broadway and here in our nation’s capital, often including artists with a special connection to the original production. In the 2017–2018 season, Broadway Center Stage will showcase the fan-favorite rock opera, *Chess*; Lin-Manuel Miranda’s Tony Award®-winning first Broadway musical, *In the Heights*; and

Frank Loesser's classic Pulitzer Prize-winning musical comedy, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

"We are thrilled to launch Broadway Center Stage at the Kennedy Center. Broadway Center Stage presents musicals in ways that will expand audiences' experiences by placing the artists' visions and voices front and center," said series producer Jeffrey Finn, who joined the Kennedy Center in October as Vice President of Theater Producing and Programming.

The series will open with *Chess*, the soaring and complex rock opera that has developed an enormous global following. The pawns in this drama form a love triangle: an American chess star, a Russian champion, and the assistant who is torn between them. In a story that takes audiences from Bangkok to Budapest, the players, lovers, politicians, and spies are manipulated to the pulse of a monumental rock score with music by Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson, and lyrics by Tim Rice.

Before *Hamilton* hits the Opera House stage in summer 2018, Kennedy Center patrons will be able to experience *In the Heights*, Lin-Manuel Miranda's first Broadway musical that tells the story of a vibrant community on the brink of change in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood. Winner of four 2008 Tony Awards®, including Best Musical and Best Score, the production will be directed and choreographed by Stephanie Klemons. An *In the Heights* original Broadway cast member and Assistant Dance Captain, Klemons has a long history with Miranda's work, having gone on to serve as Associate Choreographer for both *Hamilton* and *Bring it On*.

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, the delightfully clever lampoon of life on the corporate ladder, will be the final Broadway Center Stage entry for the 2017–2018 season. A tune-filled comic gem boasting an exhilarating score with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser, the show took Broadway by storm, winning both the Tony Award® and the Pulitzer Prize, an award won by just nine other musicals in its history.

Ticket Information

Broadway Center Stage will be available in select Kennedy Center subscription packages. Pricing and on sale details will be made available at a later date.

Funding Credits

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*The Kennedy Center Theater Season is sponsored by **Altria Group**.*

For more information about the Kennedy Center, visit www.kennedy-center.org.

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TICKETS & INFORMATION

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